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MEMORANDUM FOR: All [REDACTED] Officers

27 FEB 1973

SUBJECT : 1973 [REDACTED] Career Service Conference

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1. As I notified you in my memorandum of 8 December 1972, I appointed a Committee to plan a [REDACTED] Career Service Conference to be held on 18 - 20 March 1973. After having worked on planning for this Conference during the better part of two months, the Committee has recommended that the 1973 Conference be postponed from March until September. To support this recommendation the Committee offers the following considerations:

a. With the recent change topside, [REDACTED] it is reasonable to assume that the next several months will see changes which may have impact on the [REDACTED] Career Service. A Conference in September would permit all of us an opportunity to discuss and evaluate such changes.

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b. We have had but a limited response to our request to both Headquarters and Field "S" Officers to submit recommended topics for discussion. The Committee feels that this limited response could very probably be related to the change mentioned in paragraph a. above as well as the fact that since the last Conference positive steps, such as the establishment of SOAG, have been taken to maintain open channels of communications within the Service on a routine basis.

c. The Committee feels that a good case can be made that every two years is the best time interval for conferences of this nature and that holding them more frequently could dilute their effectiveness as well as prompt people to raise either repetitive subjects or ones of limited significance.

2. I agree with the Committee's conclusions and have approved their recommendation that the Conference be postponed until 23 - 25 September. I see it as an opportunity to have a more meaningful Conference by spending more time on preparation and having the opportunity to observe trends and changes which may occur in the next few months.

3. The Planning Committee will continue to function and I urge all of you to submit any recommendations or topics for discussion to them as may be appropriate between now and September [REDACTED]

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